



41

425

13DV-13990/11719

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
THEODORE ROBERT GROSSMAN et al. ) GAU: 1725  
Ser. No. 10/071,129 ) Examiner:  
Filed: Feb. 8, 2002 ) L. Edmondson  
For: METHOD FOR PREVENTING THE FORMATION OF )  
SECONDARY REACTION ZONE IN SUSCEPTIBLE )  
ARTICLES, AND ARTICLES PREPARED BY )  
THE METHOD )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED  
OCT 03 2003  
TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

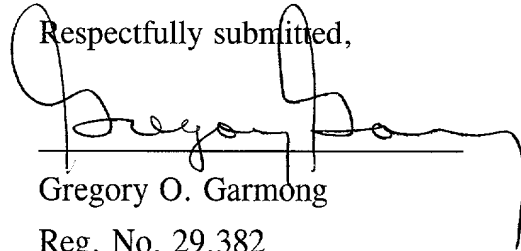
Applicant submits herewith copies of four English-language references that may be material to the examination of this application. Please consider these references and make them of record.

These references are listed in the EPO search report mailed July 10, 2003, copy attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 26, 2003, which is the date of mailing and the date of signature.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory O. Garmong", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

Gregory O. Garmong

Reg. No. 29,382

Attorney for Applicant



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Substitute for Form PTO FB A820)  
Page 1 of 1

Serial No. 10/071,129

Filed: Feb. 8, 2002

Applicant: Theodore Robert Grossman

GAU: 1725

Examiner: L Edmondson

Attorney Docket No. 13DV-13990/11719

RECEIVED  
OCT 03 2003  
TC 1700

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	4,746,369	5/88	Sullivan et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Transl.
	EP 1136593A1	9/01	EP			
	EP 0821076A1	1/98	EP			
	EP 0821076B1	11/01	EP			

Examiner's Signature

Date Considered



P. B. 5818 - Patentlaan 2  
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)  
☎ +31 70 340 2040  
TX 31651 epo.nl  
FAX +31 70 340 3016

Europäisches  
Patentamt

Zweigstelle  
in Den Haag  
Recherchen-  
abteilung

European  
Patent Office

Branch at  
The Hague  
Search  
division

Office européen  
des brevets

Département à  
La Haye  
Division de la  
recherche

☐ Szary, Anne Catherine, Dr.  
GE London Patent Operation,  
Essex House,  
12-13 Essex Street  
London WC2R 3AA  
GRANDE BRETAGNE

RECEIVED  
14 JUL 2003

US Pending  
Michelle B.

RECEIVED  
OCT 03 2003  
TC 1700

Datum/Date

10.07.03

Zeichen/Ref./Réf. 13DV-13990/9244	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 03250787.3
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits

- ☒ the European search report
- ☐ the declaration under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the partial European search report under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the supplementary European search report concerning the international application under Article 157(2) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application. Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division :

- ☒ Abstract ☐ Title ☒ Figure
- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.
- ☐ The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.
- Figure:
- ☐ Additional copy(copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

## REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



EPO Form 1507 02.93




### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
- 1, 4, 6, 7



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1, 4, 6, 7

1.1. Claims: 1, 4

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article comprising not less than 4.0%/wt. of Rhenium, characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress

1.2. Claims: 1, 6

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

1.3. Claims: 1, 7

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed using an acid, leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

2. Claims: 1, 5

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, rené N6 alloy article, characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress

3. Claims: 1, 8

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed, this step being followed by a stress relieving treatment leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

4. Claims: 1, 9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress and the final coated article is heated to the SRZ elevated reaction temperature for the SRZ reaction period of time.

5. Claims: 2, 4-9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed and the subsequent coating is free of platinum and palladium

6. Claims: 3-9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that an initial coating is removed and a subsequent aluminium-containing coating is deposited.

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 746 369 A (SULLIVAN THOMAS E ET AL) 24 May 1988 (1988-05-24) * abstract *	1,6,7	C22F1/10 C23F1/20 C23F1/44 C23C10/58
Y	* column 1, line 24 - column 2, line 16 * ---	4	
X	EP 1 136 593 A (GE AVIAT SERVICES OPERATION PT) 26 September 2001 (2001-09-26)	1,6,7	
Y	* paragraph [0006] * ---	4	
Y	EP 0 821 076 A (CHROMALLOY UK LTD ;ROLLS ROYCE PLC (GB)) 28 January 1998 (1998-01-28) * abstract * * column 1, line 40 - column 2, line 14 * -----	4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			C22F C23F C23C
<del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
MUNICH		5 May 2003	Brisson, O
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 03 25 0787

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

05-05-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4746369	A	24-05-1988	AU 543333 B2	18-04-1985
			AU 9047082 A	21-07-1983
			BE 895242 A1	31-03-1983
			CA 1209886 A1	19-08-1986
			CH 655512 B	30-04-1986
			DE 3248041 A1	21-07-1983
			ES 8403166 A1	01-06-1984
			FR 2519645 A1	18-07-1983
			FR 2578261 A1	05-09-1986
			GB 2115012 A ,B	01-09-1983
			IT 1164859 B	15-04-1987
			JP 58123878 A	23-07-1983
			JP 63034231 B	08-07-1988
			SE 8207489 A	12-07-1983
			SE 8801770 A	10-05-1988
			US 4608091 A	26-08-1986
EP 1136593	A	26-09-2001	US 6355116 B1	12-03-2002
			BR 0101152 A	30-10-2001
			EP 1136593 A1	26-09-2001
			JP 2002038283 A	06-02-2002
EP 0821076	A	28-01-1998	AU 713624 B2	09-12-1999
			AU 3014497 A	29-01-1998
			CA 2211149 A1	23-01-1998
			DE 69708541 D1	10-01-2002
			DE 69708541 T2	08-05-2002
			EP 0821076 A1	28-01-1998
			IL 121313 A	19-03-2001
			JP 10168556 A	23-06-1998
			RU 2188250 C2	27-08-2002
			US 6080246 A	27-06-2000